

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

SAM-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 STR-04 AID-05

/075 W

----- 022391

R 140947Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8042

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUNPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EGEN

SUBJECT: APCAC RESOLUTION ON TRADE WITH VIETNAM

REF: MANILA 15932 SEOUL 8762

HONG KONG 12472

SUMMARY: CONTROVERSY OVER APCAC RESOLUTION ON TRADE WITH
VIETNAM UNFORTUNATE IN VIEW OF FACT THAT UNDER THE
CIRCUMSTANCES RESOLUTION WHICH EMERGED
FROM SEOUL CONFERENCE WAS AS GOOD AS COULD BE EX-
PECTED AND VERY CLOSE TO TEXT WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE BY AMCHAM
HONG KONG IN CONSULTATION WITH CONGEN. PROBLEM IS USUAL ONE
OF FRAGMENTARY AND MISLEADING PRESS INTREPRETATIONS. HOWEVER,
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RECORD WAS SET STRAIGHT AT SUBSEQUENT AMCHAM HONG KONG PRESS

CONFERENCE AND RESOLUTION SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

1. STARS AND STIPES (NOVEMBER 12) REPORT CITED REFTEL WAS DATELINED SEOUL AS WAS A SIMILAR BUT NOT IDENTICAL ARTICLE THAT APPEARED ON PREVIOUS DAY IN HONG KONG PRESS. IT ALSO UNFORTUNATE THAT VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY PICKED UP THE SEOUL STORY AND PORTRAYED THE ISSUE AS ONE IN WHICH US BUSINESSMEN ARE AT LOGGERHEADS WITH THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT.

2. HOWEVER, AMCHAM HONG KONG SUBSEQUENTLY HELD PRESS CONFERENCE (NOVEMBER 12) WHICH PUT THE MATTER IN PERSPECTIVE BY NOTING THAT RESOLUTION WAS DIRECTED AT ALL GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED. THIS WAS ACCURATELY PICKED UP BY LOCAL PRESS WHICH NEXT DAY REPORTED IT WITH MUCH CAPTIONS AND PARAGRAPHS AS THE FOLLOWING: "CALL FOR US INDO CHINA NATIONS TO PUSH TRADE"; THE UNITED STATES AND THE COUNTRIES IN INDO-CHINA SHOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO BRING ABOUT THE SMOOTH AND RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE "AND" THE HONG KONG DELEGATION PRESENTED A STRONG RESOLUTION FOR THE USG AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE INDO CHINA STATES TO TAKE STEPS TO BRING ABOUT RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE".

3. PERHAPS BECAUSE IT FELT THAT "RECIPROCITY" WAS INHERENT IN THE FOREGOING QUOTES, LOCAL PRESS AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL DID NOT INCLUDE MENTION OF THE "ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY" CITED IN THE FINAL SEOUL RESOLUTION. THIS PARTICULAR PHRASE HAD ITS ORIGIN IN THE "IN THE RETURN FOR POSITIVE MOVES BY VIETNAM OR CAMBODIA." WHICH APPEARED IN THE FINAL AMCHAM HONG KONG RESOLUTION REPORTED REFTEL (2) REASON FOR SWITCH DEPENDED ON WHOM IS ASKED. ONE HONG KONG AMCHAM DELEGATE SAID SWITCH WAS "NOT A REAL ISSUE" AND WAS MADE TO KEEP RESOLUTION BRIEF AND TO OVERCOME QUESTION SOMEONE HAD RAISED AT THE SEOUL MEETING OF WHETHER BOTH NORTH VIETNAM AND SOUTH VIETNAM SHOULD BE LISTED INSTEAD OF JUST VIETNAM. ANOTHER DELEGATE (ROSENTHAL) FELT INTENT WAS TO CONFINE THE RESOLUTION TO TRADE ONLY WHICH HE SAYS IS ALSO HIS OWN PERSUASION. ROSENTHAL CHARACTERIZED COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN A SEOUL DATELINED ARTICLE AS "INCOMPLETE QUOTES" SINCE HE HAD ALSO MADE REMARKS ABOUT RECIPROCITY IN TRADE AND HOW USG SHOULD BE READY TO RESUME TRADE PROVIDED THERE WAS INTEREST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND RECIPROCAL ACTIONS BY THE OTHER SIDE IN MATTERS OF TRADE. HE TELLS US HE DID NOT SAY OR EVEN INTIMATE THAT HE WAS CALLING FOR UNILATERAL ACTION BY USG.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: EAST WEST TRADE, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975HONGK13650
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750398-0719
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751143/aaaabluc.tel
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06 JUL 2006

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